000 "advanced technics" referred to in this Soviet source.

• 226 Other means of livelihood. All other occupations besides farming have very little significance in Vepse. In 1897, only 0.89 per cent of these people got their livelihood from fishing and hunting. Fishing has importance only for the North Vepsians. Formerly they fished not only for their own food but also for trade. All the salmon was sold, whereas whitefish and other cheaper kinds of fish they [227] used themselves. Their fishing gear consisted of nets and seines. The seines were owned by two or three persons and the catch was divided between them.

In more recent times the catch is said to be quite small because of the decreasing supply of fish in the waters and the primitive fish- [776] ing methods. But even when the catch is good, the fishermen do not like to admit it either to their family or to outsiders, for they are afraid that the water spirit may get angry and tangle their nets.

The Middle and South Vepsians fish for their own food on Sundays and at other free times. For each village there are one to two seines belonging to several families. Kettunen, on the occasion of his second trip to the Vepsians in 1934, states that the illegal fishing has ruined the formerly rich abundance of fish in the Vepsian lakes.

4: Indiana U. S-4, 5 1955 RG4 Estonia RG4
Livonians

182 Latvianized Livonian village. In 1930, Loorits found
177 there about ten Livonians, all of whom felt
578 ashamed of their Livonian origin, looked down upon the Livonian language and were even proud that they had forgotten so much of their mother tongue. An arrogant woman ironically demanded from Loorits one Lat for every Livonian word she would say, another jeered even more disdainfully: "What will one get for this language? Land or a house? Geese or only a hen?" And pointing to her house which was being built she continued: "Does this horse language [i.e., Livonian] give the roof on our house or soft sofas in the rooms?" The woman's son swore in Latvian that he would never learn a word of the horse language, that he was not a Livonian but a thoroughbred Latvian and that he would drive the foolish Livonian patriots from the shore into the sea. (Oskar Loortis, "Liivi usundi mandumisprotsess," Virittäjä, 1945, pp. 436-37.)

181 Livonians are basically individualists,
226 but their collectivist bent has strongly devel-
476 oped during the centuries due to their main profession, fishing. Almost all fishing is done collectively, in groups of two to six or more men, since big fishing gear cannot be handled by one person. The fish caught is distributed between all the partners. In addition, large nets and seines are owned collectively.

241 In the twenties there were only a few "German" ploughs and steel harrows and a couple of horse-drawn rakes for the whole Livonian sea-coast. Grain was being threshed partly by hand, partly by a machine which was bought before the first World War.

The smallness of the fields is partly compensated by the gardens which are to be found in every household. In the gardens are grown a few apple trees, berries, and various kinds of vegetables, such as cabbages, carrots, beets, peas, beans, radishes, turnips and [231] chicory. The Livonians used to be famous for their apiculture, but after the first World War this has been neglected.

233 Cattle raising had regressed in the
422 twenties as a result of the war. Before the war, because of the moist valley meadows between the woods and the sands, it had been a fairly flourishing enterprise. Even the small farmers kept several cows for which they rented some meadowland from the baron. The larger farmers had at least ten cows.

• 226 The main means of livelihood of the Livonians is fishing. The fishing begins early in the spring at the time of the ice breaking and lasts until the sea freezes, usually about Christmas time. During milder winters fishing sometimes goes on all the time. Early in the spring, usually in April, the fishing of salmon and codfish begins. In May comes the flounder

4: Indiana U. S-4, 5 1955 RG4 Estonia RG4
Livonians

226 season, which lasts until late fall. This is one of the most important fish for the Livonians. After St. John's Day vimba bream is caught also. In August starts the season of anchovies and, a little later, of sea-bleaks.

In the fall, about the time of the potato harvest, there is a second season for codfish.

The fish are sold in the towns along the seashore, mainly in Riga and Windau. In czarist times, the fishermen themselves shipped their fish abroad also.

113

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